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STOCKTON-ON-TEES CORPORATION

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1948

HENRY J. PETERS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., D.P.A.

Medical Officer of Health;

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Printed by Heavisides & Son, 4 Finkle Street,
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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948

To the Town Council of the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report. The Report relates to the year which ended on the 31st December, 1948.

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Dr. W. Rodger, joined H.M. Forces in 1947. The clinical work at the child welfare and ante-natal clinics previously performed by him, was undertaken by certain general practitioners on a sessional basis.

The vital statistics of the Borough for 1948 show very favourable trends in several respects. The infantile mortality rate and the general death-rate were the lowest ever recorded. The incidence of the acute infectious diseases was low and these diseases accounted for few deaths.

Though the birth-rate is lower than last year, it still remains comparatively high. The birth-rate per 1,000 of the population was 22·18 in 1948 and 24·41 in 1947. The birth-rate for England and Wales during 1948 was 17·9.

The population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar General again shows an increase, the estimate for the middle of 1948 being 73,090, as compared with 71,610 for 1947. Since 1945 the estimated population of the Borough has increased from 65,650 to 73,090.

The still-birth rate of 29·34 per 1,000 total births is somewhat higher than the rate for 1947, which was 27·80. The still-birth rate for England and Wales during 1948 was 24·1.

The infantile mortality rate of 45 per 1,000 live births is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough. The corresponding rate for England and Wales during 1948 was 34. The number of deaths in the Borough due to premature births was 23, as compared with 33 in the previous year. The number of deaths from this cause could be reduced by the appointment of nursing staff specially trained in the care of premature infants. When possible and where the home or other circumstances rendered it desirable, premature births were admitted to the Robson Maternity Home. There was a limit, however, to what could be done in this direction because of the very heavy demands made on the accommodation at the Maternity Home.

The general death-rate of 10·90 per 1,000 of the population is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough and represents a considerable reduction on the rate of 12·59 for

1947. There were 105 fewer deaths than in the previous year. The number of deaths ascribed to bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases and to such causes as congenital debility and premature birth, showed a marked fall. Considerably more than one-third of the deaths occurred in persons aged 70 or more years. A general death-rate of 10.90 for an industrial area is comparatively low. The general death-rate for England and Wales during 1948 was 10.8 and for the 126 Great Towns it was 11.6.

The maternal mortality rate of 2.39 per 1,000 total births compares favourably with last year's rate of 2.78 and the rate for 1946, which was 4.28. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales during 1948 was 1.02. There were four maternal deaths during the year. Two were due to pulmonary embolism and two to shock and hæmorrhage associated with retained placenta. The facilities of the Middlesbrough Emergency Obstetric Unit are now available to patients resident in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees. The facilities have already proved their value on several occasion and will, no doubt, continue to make a significant contribution towards the prevention of maternal deaths.

The position in the Borough in regard to the incidence and fatality of the acute infectious diseases was satisfactory during the year under review. The total number (after correction) of cases of acute infectious disease notified during the year was 1,532. These gave rise to only six deaths. The favourable trend in the incidence of the acute infectious diseases is, of course, reflected in a considerable reduction in the number of cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

There were comparatively few cases of Measles during 1947 and, having regard to the known epidemiological behaviour of this disease, its increased incidence during 1948 was not unexpected. There were 1,024 notified cases during 1948, compared with 299 in the previous year. The fatality rate, however, was very low, there being only one death from measles during the year.

The number of notified cases of whooping cough increased from 45 in 1947 to 312 in 1948. Again the fatality rate was low, there being only two deaths from whooping cough during 1948.

The number of notified cases of scarlet fever was 96, which represents a considerable reduction on the figure of 279 for 1947. There were no deaths from scarlet fever during the year.

The incidence of diphtheria continues to be low. Eight cases occurred during the year and none of these proved fatal. There can be no doubt that this happy position is

largely the result of immunisation. All that is required for the eradication of this dangerous disease is that full advantage should be taken by parents of the facilities for immunisation which are freely available to all children. Parents who neglect to do so are unnecessarily exposing their children to a grave risk. The child who has been immunised is much less likely to contract diphtheria and very much less likely to die from it, than the child who has not been immunised.

The incidence of infantile paralysis was very much less than in the previous year. There were five notified cases during 1948, compared with twelve in 1947. No deaths occurred from this disease during 1948.

The National Health Service Act of 1946, came into force on the 5th July, 1948. Under this Act responsibility for the administration of certain services was transferred from the Borough Council to other bodies. The Stockton Isolation Hospital and the Robson Maternity Home were transferred to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Regional Hospital Board. The day-to-day administration of the Isolation Hospital lies with the Cleveland Hospital Management Committee and that of the Robson Maternity Home with the Tees-side Hospital Management Committee. Responsibility for the personal health services was transferred from the Borough Council to the Durham County Council. The County Council are thus responsible for the administration of the child welfare centres, the day nurseries, and the health visiting, domiciliary midwifery, domestic help, diphtheria immunisation and ambulance services. All these were previously administered by the Borough Council. In addition to the services already enumerated, the County Council are also responsible under the Act for the home nursing and vaccination services and the establishment of health centres.

Pursuant to paragraph six of the fourth schedule to the Act, the County Council have adopted a scheme for the establishment of sub-committees of the County Health Committee. These Committees are known as Area Health Sub-Committees. One of these Sub-Committees has been established for the area covered by the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees and by mutual agreement between the Borough Council and the County Council the Medical Officer of Health of the Borough has been appointed Area Medical Officer in a part-time capacity. The scheme provides that, subject to such special or general directions as may be given by the County Health Committee, and to the exceptions specified in the scheme, the functions of the County Health Committee under Sections 21—29 of the Act shall be exercised by the Area Health Sub-Committees in their respective areas. The

functions referred to relate to the following services :— Health centres, maternity and child welfare, domiciliary midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, vaccination and immunisation, ambulances, the prevention of illness and the care and after-care of sick persons, and domestic help.

The past exertions of the Borough Council in relation to the development of the personal health services have borne most fruitful results and one naturally regrets that responsibility for the administration of these services has passed out of its control. This regret is accentuated by the knowledge that the Borough Council possesses entirely adequate resources to discharge efficiently all the duties of a Local Health Authority under the Act and to develop the personal health services in the light of new knowledge. There is much to be said for entrusting the administration of these services to comparatively small local government units as long as they possess the requisite resources for efficient administration. It is difficult to see any advantage in the transference of responsibility for the administration of these services from the Borough Council to another local authority whose administrative centre is some twenty miles distant from the Borough when the Borough Council possesses the necessary resources for their efficient administration. The personal health services are so intimately bound up with the life of a local community that it seems very desirable that the relationship between the body responsible for their organisation and the local community should be as close as possible.

If the Area Health Sub-Committees are to make a useful contribution to the administration and future development of these services they must be accorded a reasonable degree of responsibility and executive power. Otherwise there is a very real danger that progress will be hindered rather than helped. Delegation can be so limited that it has no practical value and merely tends to create difficulties. It should not be forgotten that the development of the public health and other local authority services owes much to the initiative and enthusiasm exhibited by comparatively small local authorities. Undue insistence on uniformity of method throughout the administrative county will impede rather than encourage progress. Area Health Sub-Committees may provide a useful stimulus to progress if they are not frustrated by a lack of sufficient executive power and responsibility and are not subjected to unnecessary restrictions and interference in the performance of their work. In the words of J. S. Mill there should be : “ Wisdom at the centre and power at the periphery.”

During that part of 1948 when the Borough Council was the responsible authority several improvements were effected in the maternity and child welfare services. Arrangements

were made with the Middlesbrough Corporation whereby the Emergency Obstetric Unit became available to patients residing in Stockton. Arrangements were also made for the carrying out of routine blood tests (presumptive Kahn reaction and Rh. factor) at the ante-natal clinics. The majority of the domiciliary midwives had received training in the administration of gas and air analgesia by the end of the first half of the year. Clerical assistance was provided for the Matron at the Robson Maternity Home and the new equipment installed at this hospital included a refrigerator, an electric floor polisher and a wireless relay service for the staff.

Details of the work of the sanitary section of the Department are given in the body of the report. Considerable attention was paid to food premises, including ice-cream premises. Special attention was also directed to premises occupied by hairdressers. These premises must be registered under the Stockton-on-Tees Corporation Act of 1938.

One sample of undesignated milk was found to contain tubercle bacilli. This draws attention to the danger of consuming raw milk and emphasises the need of ensuring as soon as possible that all milk intended for human consumption is efficiently heat-treated so that any dangerous germs it may contain are thereby rendered innocuous. Fortunately, the majority of the milk retailed in the Borough has been heat-treated. All the milk supplied to the schools and the day nurseries is so treated.

The desirability of improving the existing facilities for the slaughter and inspection of animals has been stressed in previous annual reports.

The provision of adequate housing accommodation for each family in the Borough is, of course, one of the most urgent tasks of the present time. Many mothers, because of the housing shortage, have had to care for their children under conditions of the greatest difficulty. The highest praise is due to them for the courage and devotion to duty they have shown in the work of caring for their families under most trying circumstances. It is pleasing to be able to record that during the year ended 31st March, 1949, the Council was able to re-house seventeen families in which there was a case of pulmonary tuberculosis. The re-housing of such families, in so far as it prevents the spread of tuberculosis, is of benefit to the community as a whole, as well as being in the interests of the sufferer from the disease and his family. It is neither good medicine nor sound finance to expend considerable skill and money on the treatment of the tuberculous and at the same time allow them to remain in unsatisfactory housing accommodation.

Reference has been made in previous annual reports to the need for more adequate accommodation for the staff of

the Health Department. Work is now in progress on the adaptation of the premises in Yarm Lane known as "Woodlands." These premises should be ready for occupation in the near future.

In conclusion, I desire to thank Mr. E. Varley, my Chief Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. H. Kipling, my Chief Clerk, for their assistance in the compilation of this report and all the members of my staff for the valuable work they have performed during the year. My grateful thanks are also due to the members of the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for their interest and encouragement and to the Chief Officials of the Corporation for their ready help and co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. PETERS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
11, Finkle Street,
Stockton on-Tees.
10th September, 1949.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Population.—The civil population, as estimated by the Registrar General at the middle of 1948, was 73,090, an increase of 1,480 on the figure for the previous year. The natural increase in the population (i.e., the number by which the births exceeded the deaths) during the year was 824.

Live Births:—						1948	1947	
Males	838	Birth-rate per 1000 of population	...	22·18	24·41
Females	...	...	...	783				
Total				1621				
					Rate per 1000			
Still Births	49	total births	...	29·34	27·80
Deaths:—								
Males	405	Death-rate per 1000 of population	...	10·90	12·53
Females	...	...	...	392				
Total				797				
Infantile Mortality:—					Rate per 1000			
Number of deaths at ages under 1 year				73	live births	...	45	59
Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—					Rate per 1000			
Number of deaths				4	total births	...	2·39	2·78

The number of births registered during the year was 127 short of the high figure for 1947, but it is still well above the average, the rate for the 126 Great Towns being 20·0 and that for England and Wales 17·9 per 1,000 of the population.

The stillbirth rate at 29·34 per 1,000 total births, is slightly higher than the rate for the previous year although the actual number of stillbirths is one less. It is to be hoped that improvements in ante-natal care will be reflected in an improvement in the stillbirth rate. The rate for England and Wales has shown a steady fall from 37·8 in 1939 to 24·1 in 1947.

The general death-rate of 10·90 per 1,000 of the population is a record low rate for the Borough. There were 105 less deaths registered during 1948 than during 1947. The rate is very satisfactory for an industrial Borough and compares very favourably with the rate of 11·6 for the 126 Great Towns and 10·8, the rate for England and Wales.

Of the 797 deaths registered, 405 were males and 392 females. 205 of the deaths, or 25%, occurred at ages between 70 and 80 years; 103, or 13%, occurred at ages between 80 and 90 years and 13 deaths occurred at ages over 90 years.

The infantile mortality rate at 45 is the lowest rate ever recorded in the Borough, the previous record low rate was in 1936, with a rate of 47 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales also reached a new low level at 34, while that for the 136 C.B.'s and Great Towns was 39.

The four maternal deaths during the year give a maternal mortality rate of 2·39, compared with five deaths and a rate of 2·78 in 1947. The rate for England and Wales for 1948 was 1·02 per 1,000 total births.

The following table shows the average annual Birth-rates, Death-rates and Infantile Mortality rates for five-year periods from 1901 to 1945, and for the individual years 1946, 1947 and 1948, for Stockton-on-Tees and England and Wales :—

	STOCKTON-ON-TEES				ENGLAND AND WALES		
	Birth	Death	Inf. M.		Birth	Death	Inf. M.
	Rate	Rate	Rate		Rate	Rate	Rate
1901—05	31·64	17·62	153	...	28·16	16·0	137·8
1906—10	29·50	15·98	128	...	26·2	14·6	117·0
1911—15	30·02	17·18	122	...	23·6	14·3	109·6
1916—20	25·04	17·80	111	...	20·0	14·5	90·6
1921—25	25·50	13·80	94	...	19·9	12·1	75·8
1926—30	21·64	13·49	85	...	16·7	12·1	67
1931—35	19·21	12·47	74	...	15·0	12·0	62
1936—40	18·89	12·50	63	...	14·9	12·5	55
1941—45	20·23	13·08	65	...	16·0	11·9	50
1946	22·72	11·55	52	...	19·1	11·5	43
1947	24·41	12·59	59	...	20·5	12·0	41
1948	22·18	10·90	45	...	17·9	10·8	34

Notes on Causes of Death.—The principal causes of death during the year, with associated causes grouped together, compared with corresponding figures for the four preceding years, were as follows :—

Disease	Number of Deaths				
	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
1. Heart and Circulatory diseases ...	252	240	245	227	221
2. Cancer ...	103	117	106	129	108
3. Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and other respiratory diseases ...	78	132	91	101	104
4. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	68	78	72	74	69
5. Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	46	51	43	52	48
6. Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	42	66	47	41	53
7. Violence ...	38	35	35	35	41
Totals ...	627	719	639	659	644
Percentage of total deaths ...	79	80	79	77	75

With the exception of heart and circulatory diseases and violence, all these causes show a reduction on last year's figures.

In the following table the deaths from violence are classified according to sex and cause of death :—

Cause of death					Male	Female	Total
Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	6	8
Accidentally drowned	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Accident at home	...	...	...	...	6	7	13
Accident at work	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
Road accidents	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Asphyxia (infants)	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Criminal abortion	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Starvation	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Knocked down by dog in street	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals					21	17	38

Deaths from suicide have risen from five to eight. Road accidents caused two deaths during the year, compared with nine during 1947, and in both years all the casualties have been males.

Nine of the accidents in the home were the result of falls by elderly people ; one was a child and was due to burns, and three were adults, who died from gas poisoning.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.—The Borough is supplied with water by the Tees Valley Water Board. The supply has its source in upland gathering grounds, near which it is impounded in extensive reservoirs. The supply is constant and abundant. In all cases the supply is direct to the house.

No bacteriological samples are taken of raw water. Water going into supply is treated with ammonia and chlorine. Numerous samples are taken of water going into supply by the Tees Valley Water Board's staff and these samples are examined at the Board's own laboratory. In addition, samples are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratory for examination. The supply is chlorinated after treatment and a slight residual of chlorine is maintained

throughout the system. New mains are sterilized and satisfactory bacteriological samples obtained before the mains are put into service. All water leaving open service reservoirs is re-chlorinated before going into supply.

No complaints in respect to the water supply were received during the year.

Rivers and Streams.—The crude sewage of the Borough is discharged into the River Tees without treatment.

Closet Accommodation.—No house in the Borough within reasonable distance of a sewer is now without a water closet.

Slaughterhouses.—The arrangements for slaughtering animals for human consumption is still carried out under the direction of the Ministry of Food Slaughtering Division at two slaughterhouses in the Borough. An application was made for the licensing of a slaughterhouse which had been closed since 1940, for the purpose of slaughtering horses for human consumption. This application was refused by the Council and the applicant appealed to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction against this decision. After hearing the case the appeal was dismissed.

Offensive Trades.—The following offensive trades were operated in the Borough with the consent of the local authority :—

Tripe Boilers	...	...	...	5
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	1
Fellmonger	...	...	...	1

These businesses were satisfactorily conducted during the year and gave no cause for complaint.

Common Lodging Houses.—Inspections of the two common lodging houses revealed that they were supervised and operated satisfactorily during the year.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.—The Rodent Officer continued the survey and treatment of various premises throughout the Borough. Sewer manholes were given double maintenance treatment. About 10% of the bodies of poisoned rats were collected.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year :—

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	143
„ „ premises surveyed	...	...	...	465
„ „ premises treated	...	...	...	125
„ „ sewer manholes treated	...	...	...	2,045
„ „ rats killed (according to poison “take”)	...	...	...	2,939

Diseases of Animals Acts.—Regular routine inspections of the cattle market were carried out on sale days and 757 licences were issued for the movement of 3,489 pigs.

Four cases of suspected swine fever and one of anthrax were notified to the Ministry during the year, but none of these cases was confirmed.

As a result of tracing back following the condemnation of calves for congenital tuberculosis in the slaughterhouse, nine cases were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This resulted in three affected cows being located and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

Twenty-six vessels arriving in the River Tees were visited under the Importation of Dogs and Cats Order.

Stockton-on-Tees Corporation Act — Hairdressers.—Inspections were made of all premises occupied by persons on the register and the register was brought up-to-date. It was found that of the original 79 hairdressers who registered in 1938-40, 27 had closed and 12 had subsequently changed hands. Since the war a further 19 have been registered, making a total of 71 registered premises. In all cases the premises and equipment were found to be clean and satisfactory.

Factories Act, 1937.—The register of factories was brought up-to-date during the year. The 217 inspections made included several premises which had not been previously visited owing to shortage of staff. Record cards are now available for the 356 premises on the register and, generally speaking, the sanitary accommodation for the employees was found to be satisfactory, although in 24 cases it was necessary to serve notices.

In the following table prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, are given :—

1. **Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health**

PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	86	25	6
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	270	192	— 18
Total ...	356	217	24

2. Cases in which defects were found

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	FOUND	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient ...	3	2	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	18	15	1	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	3	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	3	3	—	3	—
Total ...	27	21	1	3	—

Outwork

Number of outworkers in August list 40

Nature of work—making of wearing apparel.

No notices were served or prosecutions instituted during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA

The following is a summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1948 :—

Inspections following complaints	1,254
,, under the Housing &c., Acts	242
,, ,, the Public Health Act	1,206
,, in regard to outstanding notices	3,528
Visits to slaughterhouses for meat inspection	896
Samples taken for analysis Food and Drugs Act	200
Samples taken for bacteriological examination	126
Inspections of bakehouses	77
,, ,, dairies and milkshops	221
,, ,, fish and chip shops	19
,, ,, ice cream shops	83

Inspections of food shops and warehouses	431
„ „ restaurants, cafes and snack bars	35
„ „ offensive trades	62
„ „ markets	207
„ „ factories	266
„ „ outworkers	42
„ „ licenced premises and places of enter tainment	19
„ „ cowsheds	86
„ „ stables and pigstyes	45
„ under the Diseases of Animals Acts	125
„ under the Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	208
„ of Common Lodging Houses	16
„ „ Houses Let-in-Lodgings	22
„ „ Hairdressers	131
Investigations made in respect to notifiable disease ...	183
Premises disinfected re infectious disease	143
„ „ „ vermin	107
„ „ „ tuberculosis	10
Miscellaneous inspections and interviews	470

Work under the Public Health Act, 1936, and Housing Act, 1936.—1,254 complaints were dealt with during the year. These were mainly concerned with the defective conditions of dwelling-houses and, together with other inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, resulted in the following notices being served :—

Public Health Act, 1936—Preliminary Notices	742
Statutory Notices	395
Housing Act, 1936—Statutory Notices	140

The number of premises in respect to which notices served during 1947-48 were complied with, was as follows :—

Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936 ...	748
Notices served under the Housing Act, 1936	127

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.—The number of cowkeepers, dairymen, retail purveyors and heat treatment plants in the Borough is as follows :—

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	20
Dairymen	...	...	...	22
Retail purveyors	...	...	...	58
Heat treatment plants	...	...	...	3

The general condition of the cowsheds is satisfactory. In two cases alterations are in hand to bring the premises

Part carcasses and organs of sheep	394
Part carcasses and organs of pigs	76
Part carcasses and organs of calves	42

The following quantities of meat were inspected and condemned at butchers' shops and at central meat depot :—

Imported beef and organs	1468 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
„ pork and organs	298 „
„ mutton and organs	30 „
Corned beef	2807 „

Inspection of Other Foods.—The following is a summary of various foodstuffs inspected during the year and condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

Fish (tins)	2,064	Puddings (tins) ...	5
Fish (wet)	843 lbs.	Chocolate	12 bars
Fruit (tins)	1,152	Ready Meals (tins)	74
Fruit (dried)	604 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Meat	199 lbs.
Fruit (dried)	29 tins	Meat (tins)	329
Fruit Juice (tins)	74	Bacon and Ham ...	251 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Vegetables (tins)	1,817	Flour	90 lbs.
Vegetables (fresh)	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Nuts	10 lbs.
Cereals, etc.	190 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Butter and Fats ...	83 lbs.
Cereals, etc.	44 pkts.	Sugar	40 lbs.
Milk (tins)	2,250	Tea	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Milk (dried)	224 lbs.	Biscuits	7 lbs.
Egg substitute	11 pkts.	Trifles	270 cartons
Egg substitute	1 tin	Cream (synthetic)	3 galls
Jam (tins and jars)	298	Yeast	308 lbs.
Soup (tins)	702	Coffee (tins)	2
Pickles (jars)	668	Cake	29 lbs.
Pudding and Cake		Sauce (bottles) ...	15
mixture	34 pkts.	Flavouring (jars)	7

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

General.—A total of 200 samples of food were taken for analysis during the year. Amongst the various pre-packed foods, 10 samples were found to be infested with mites.

Of six samples of sausage, two were found to be deficient in meat content. Following a complaint from a works canteen, three samples of canned fruit juice (ex-army stock) were sent for chemical examination. These revealed metallic contamination in each case. Necessary action was taken in all the above cases. One sample of watercress,

purchased from a casual seller in the market place, was found to be contaminated by sewage. The vendor was instructed to cease collecting and selling from this source.

Milk.—of fourteen samples of milk, three showed a deficiency in fat content. Two of these were from the same producer outside the Borough, and the matter was reported for action to the County Sampling Officer. The other sample was taken late in the day from the bottom of a churn in a general shop, and the result showed that insufficient care had been taken regarding “plunging” before serving earlier customers.

The vendor, who had recently taken over the business, had not realised the seriousness of this matter, and took immediate steps to obtain his milk already bottled from the producers.

Ice Cream.—Fifteen samples of Ice Cream were taken from twelve shops and three barrows, with the following results :—

		Methylene Blue Test Grades			
		1	2	3	4
Manufactured in the Borough		5	5	—	2
„ out of the Borough ...		2	1	—	—

Although the operation of the Heat Treatment Regulations, 1947, was again deferred, all the manufacturers in the Borough are co-operating with the Sanitary Inspectors in the adaptation of their premises to accommodate new equipment. During the year, every effort was made by them to comply as far as possible, with their existing equipment, with the method of manufacture under the proposed Regulations. The results of the provisional Methylene Blue Test shown above, indicate that a step forward has already been made on previous years. In 1947, only nine out of twenty-one samples were graded 1 or 2, whereas in 1948 thirteen out of fifteen samples were in these grades.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year increased from 746 to 1,532. This increase is almost wholly accounted for by increases in the incidence of measles and whooping cough. Cases of scarlet fever notified during the year showed a remarkable reduction and the incidence of primary pneumonia was much lighter. The incidence of diphtheria remained at a very low level, only eight cases being confirmed, compared with nine in 1947. These figures are a source of satisfaction and lead to the

assumption that a continuance of the campaign for immunisation will eventually eradicate this disease.

The deaths registered from infectious diseases during the year were as follows :—

Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	1
Acute Inf. Encephalitis	...	1	

There were no deaths from scarlet fever, diphtheria or typhoid fever during the year.

The number of cases of infectious disease, after correction notified during each quarter of the year 1948 is shown in the following table :—

				Quarter Ended				
				31st Mch.	30th Jun.	30th Sep.	31st Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	37	22	15	22	96
Diphtheria	...	...	...	4	1	1	2	8
Measles	...	...	...	234	680	105	5	1024
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	145	88	49	30	312
Pneumonia	...	...	...	24	11	2	9	46
Erysipelas	...	...	...	6	4	5	9	24
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	2	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	1	3	1	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	2	3	1	1	7
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	1	4	5
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	457	810	182	83	1532

The case-rates per 1,000 of the population for certain infectious diseases in 1948 for England and Wales, the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns and Stockton-on-Tees, are shown in the following table :—

				England & Wales	126 C.B.'s & Great Towns inc. London	Stockton-on-Tees
Disease	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	0·07	0·00	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	0·01	0·01	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	0·03	0·03	0·03
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1·73	1·90	1·31
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	3·42	3·51	4·26
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0·08	0·10	0·11
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0·21	0·23	0·32
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	9·34	9·75	14·01
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0·73	0·84	0·63
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0·04	0·05	0·07
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	0·00	0·00	—

It will be seen from the above table that Stockton compares very favourably with England and Wales and the 126

County Boroughs and Great Towns except in the case of Measles, where Stockton had a very high rate. This disease, however, fluctuates greatly in its incidence from year to year, affecting various parts of the country at different periods. For instance, the rate for Stockton for the year 1947 was 4.17 per 1,000, while that for the 126 Great Towns was 9.13.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria.—This is one of the services taken over by the County Council on 5th July, 1948. The various clinics and other facilities for immunisation have been continued in the Borough without interruption. Most of the immunisations are carried out at welfare centres, where every effort is made to secure immunisation of infants by the time they reach the age of one year.

The number of children immunised in the Borough during the first half of the year was as follows :—

	Pre-School	School	Total
January to June, 1948 ...	511	49	560

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

The Isolation Hospital was transferred to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948. All the hospitals in the area were divided by the Board into 31 groups, each group being administered by a Hospital Management Committee. The Isolation Hospital is in group 12, now known as the Cleveland Hospital Management Committee. There are six hospitals in this group, namely :—

Poole Sanatorium	...	...	315	beds
Middlesbrough Isolation	...	...	215	,,
Stockton Isolation	...	...	76	,,
Guisborough Isolation	...	...	24	,,
Eston Isolation	...	...	36	,,
Eston Smallpox	...	...	20	,,
Total	...	...	686	,,

At the request of the Board, the Stockton Corporation agreed to carry on the management of the hospital on an

agency basis until 31st March, 1949, to give the Cleveland Hospital Management Committee time to create the necessary administrative machinery. There was very little change, therefore, in the administration of the hospital up to the end of the year.

The number of cases admitted to the hospital fell from 529 in 1947 to 287 in 1948. The most notable reductions in the number of admissions were :—Scarlet Fever from 379 to 137 ; Diphtheria from 23 to 10 ; Cerebro Spinal Fever from 18 to 1 ; and Poliomyelitis from 20 to 4. The number of cases of Measles treated increased from 5 to 19. A variety of non-infectious cases were treated in the cubicle block during the year, mainly owing to the difficulty of obtaining accommodation in general hospitals.

One patient admitted as a possible case of acute poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was found to have a brain tumour and was immediately transferred to the neuro-surgical department at the Newcastle General Hospital. Another patient developed appendicitis and was transferred to the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital for operation.

Cases of scarlet fever were treated with penicillin, using the method advocated by T. Jersild. The results of this treatment were highly satisfactory.

One of the four cases of acute poliomyelitis admitted to the hospital developed a severe paralysis of both lower limbs and was transferred to the Sedgefield General Hospital for further treatment. This patient had been engaged in heavy domestic work just prior to contracting the disease. This case supports the view that heavy physical exertion increases the risk of severe paralysis. Arrangements were made for the follow-up of cases discharged from the hospital with paralysis.

The following table shows the number of admissions to the Hospital during the year from the different districts

catered for. The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases admitted up to 5th July, 1948.

DISEASE	Stockton Borough	Billingham U.D.C.	Stockton R.D.C.	Military	TOTAL
Scarlet fever	94(58)	35(28)	8(4)	—	137(90)
Diphtheria	9(6)	1	—	—	10(6)
Membranous Group ...	1(1)	—	—	—	1(1)
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	8(5)	3(2)	—	—	11(7)
Ophthalmia					
Neonatorum	3(1)	—	—	—	3(1)
Erysipelas	4(4)	—	—	—	4(4)
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	1(1)	—	1(1)
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	4	—	—	—	4
Chicken Pox	1	2	—	1(1)	4(1)
Measles	16(9)	3(2)	—	—	19(11)
Whooping Cough ...	5(4)	—	—	—	5(4)
Tonsillitis	27(17)	9(8)	2(2)	—	38(27)
Laryngitis	1	1(1)	—	—	2(1)
Gastro Enteritis ...	11(4)	8(6)	—	—	19(10)
Ulcerative Colitis ...	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	2(2)	—	—	—	2(2)
Allergic Rash	3(2)	—	—	—	3(2)
Mumps	—	—	—	1(1)	1(1)
Herpes Zoster	1(1)	—	—	—	1(1)
Eczema	1	—	—	—	1
Pemphigus	1(1)	—	—	—	1(1)
Bronchitis	2(2)	—	1(1)	—	3(3)
Heat Stroke	1	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Thrombosis ...	1(1)	—	—	—	1(1)
Vincent's Angina ...	1(1)	—	—	—	1(1)
Appendicitis	1(1)	—	—	—	1(1)
Premature Birth ...	1	—	—	—	1
Baby with mother ...	1	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	1	—	—	1
No Abnormality	4(2)	2(1)	—	—	6(3)
Totals ...	208(122)	65(48)	12(8)	2(2)	287(180)

The average daily occupation of beds during the year was 15.5. The highest number of patients in the hospital on any one day was 36, the lowest 3. The average duration of stay in the hospital was 19 days.

There were nine deaths in the hospital during the year, as follows:—

Broncho-pneumonia and whooping cough ...	1
Broncho-pneumonia and gastro-enteritis ...	1
Broncho-pneumonia and acute laryngitis ...	1
Broncho-pneumonia	2
Whooping cough	1
Gastro-enteritis	2
Premature baby	1

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratories at Northallerton and Newcastle provide excellent laboratory facilities in the area. Almost any type of specimen may be sent for examination free of cost. A motor van from the Northallerton Laboratory calls daily at the Health Department and collect specimens, thus saving valuable time in obtaining reports.

During the year the following specimens were sent for examination :—

From the Isolation Hospital	499
From local medical practitioners and the Tuberculosis Dispensary	348

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of cases on the register at the beginning of the year 1948, the number of additions and removals during the year and the number of cases remaining at the end of the year.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL GROSS
	M.	F.	TOT.	M.	F.	TOT.	
No. of cases on reg. 1/1/48	153	132	285	43	63	106	391
Added during year ...	56	34	90	7	8	15	105
Removed during year...	14	21	35	—	1	1	36
Remaining on reg. 31/12/48	195	145	340	50	70	120	460

For the second year in succession the number of pulmonary cases added to the register has increased over the previous year's figure. The number of new cases during the last three years were 67, 82 and 90 in the years 1946, 1947 and 1948 respectively. The number of new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis have remained fairly stationary, the figures for the last three years being 14, 17 and 15, for the years 1946, 1947 and 1948 respectively.

The case-rate per 1,000 of the population for all forms of tuberculosis has risen from 1·38 in 1947 to 1·45 in 1948.

There were 46 deaths during the year from this disease—41 pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary, compared with 51—36 pulmonary and 15 non-pulmonary—in 1947, the death-rate showing a correspondingly slight fall to 0·63 per 1,000 of the population, compared with rates of 0·51 for England and Wales and 0·59 for the 126 Great Towns.

The average death-rates for both types of this disease per 1,000 of the population for each five-year period since 1911 and for the years 1946, 1947 and 1948, are given below :—

		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1911-15	...	1.28	0.75	2.03
1916-20	...	1.30	0.57	1.87
1921-25	...	0.91	0.37	1.28
1926-30	...	0.90	0.35	1.25
1931-35	...	0.74	0.20	0.94
1936-40	...	0.63	0.14	0.77
1941-45	...	0.71	0.11	0.88
1946	...	0.43	0.19	0.62
1947	...	0.50	0.21	0.71
1948	...	0.56	0.07	0.63

CANCER

There were 103 deaths registered as being due to cancer during the year 1948, compared with 117 during 1947.

In the following table the deaths are classified according to age, sex and site affected :—

SITE	25—45		45—65		65—75		75 & OVER		TOTAL
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Buccal cavity and Pharynx ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	3
Digestive organs and peritoneum	2	—	14	10	11	8	2	7	54
Respiratory system	1	—	14	3	1	—	3	—	22
Uterus	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Other female genital organs	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Breast	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	2	8
Male genital organs	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	5
Urinary organs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brain	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other or un-specified organs	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Totals ...	3	1	30	25	14	11	8	10	*102

*This figure is one less than is shown by the Registrar General in his official return.

The death-rates from cancer for the last five years have been :—

1948	...	...	...	1.41
1947	...	...	...	1.63
1946	...	...	...	1.52
1945	...	...	...	1.96
1944	...	...	...	1.66

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS AND SCABIES

These conditions are now very much less prevalent than during the war. All cases found at routine medical inspections and by School Nurses at special inspections, are treated at the School Clinic.

Many of the older houses in the town are infested with vermin, usually bugs or beetles, and 107 houses were sprayed by the Department with D.D.T. insecticide during the year with good results.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The maternity and child welfare services, which have been administered in the Borough by the Town Council since 1916, were transferred to the Durham County Council on the 5th July, 1948, under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Maternity and child welfare work has been carried on in the Borough since 1915, when one child welfare centre was conducted by a voluntary organisation known as the Stockton and Norton Babies' Welcome. On 1st January, 1916, the Council formed a Maternity and Child Welfare Committee and took over this work. At the time of the transfer to the County Council comprehensive child welfare, ante-natal and post-natal services were available to all mothers and children in the Borough.

These services comprised—

Six Child Welfare Centres, at which nine sessions weekly were held.

Two Ante-Natal Centres, at which five sessions per fortnight were held.

One Post-Natal Clinic, which was incorporated with with the Ante-Natal Centres.

One Artificial Sunlight Clinic, at which two sessions per week were held.

Three Day Nurseries with accommodation for 152 children.

Home Help Service.

Supervision of Midwives.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Scheme for the Dental and Surgical treatment of pre-school children.

Infant life protection.

The staff employed to carry out these services, excluding the administrative staff of the Health Department, was as follows :—

Five Health Visitors, one of whom acted as Supervisor of Municipal Midwives and Assistant Inspector of Midwives.

Ten Domiciliary Municipal Midwives.

Two Clerks (1 full time and 1 part-time).

One Caretaker.

All these members of the staff were transferred to the Durham County Council on the appointed day.

Since 5th July, 1948, all statistical reports and notifications of birth have been made direct to the County Council and the following statistics therefore relate only to the first half of the year.

The number of births notified in the Borough during the first six months of 1948 was 859—840 live births and 19 still births, compared with 961, the number notified during the first half of 1947.

Child Welfare Centres.—The total number of attendances at the Child Welfare Centres during the first six months of 1948 was 14,409. 708 of these were primary attendances and 13,701 were repeat attendances. The average attendance per session was 67·6 compared with an average of 65·47 during 1947. The number of primary attendances at the Centres of infants under 1 year of age represents 80% of the live births notified during the period.

The following table shows the number of attendances made during the six months January to June, 1948, at each of the Centres. The number of medical consultations, the number of sessions held and the average attendance per session at each Centre.

Centre No.	ATTENDANCES						GROSS TOTAL	No. of Medical Consul- tations	No. of Sessions	Average Attend- ances
	PRIMARY			REPEAT						
	Under 1	Over 1	TOT.	Under 1	Over 1	TOT.				
1	134	12	146	1237	492	1729	1875	536	26	72·1
2	217	11	228	2875	1759	4634	4862	564	72	67·5
3	61	1	62	663	279	942	1004	275	19	52·8
4	155	8	163	2434	1080	3514	3677	569	48	76·5
5	64	5	69	1270	612	1882	1951	463	24	81·3
6	39	1	40	638	362	1000	1040	166	24	43·3
Tot.	670	38	708	9117	4584	13701	14409	2573	213	67·6

Artificial Sunlight Clinics.—Two Artificial Sunlight sessions continued to be held each week. Forty-nine sessions were held during the first half of the year, at which 53 primary and 780 repeat attendances were made.

Ante-Natal Centres.—The five ante-natal sessions per fortnight were continued. The attendances at the Centres, the number of medical consultations, the number of sessions held and the average attendance per session, are shown in the following table :—

CENTRE NO.	ATTENDANCES		TOTAL	No. of Medical Consulta- tions	No. of Sessions	Average Attendance per Session
	Primary	Repeat				
1	143	338	481	262	25	19·2
2	47	103	150	147	11	13·6
3	205	92	297	296	22	13·5
Totals	395	533	928	705	58	16·0

No. 3 Centre is conducted solely for women booked to enter the Robson Maternity Home for their confinement and this Centre now forms part of the services provided by the Tees-side Hospital Management Committee.

The average attendance at all three Centres shows a slight improvement on last year's figures.

Post-Natal Clinic.—This Clinic is now run in conjunction with the Ante-Natal Centres. During the first six months of the year 18 primary and 9 repeat post-natal examinations were made.

Home Visiting.—6,480 home visits were made by the five Health Visitors during the first half of the year. The following is a summary of these visits :—

To infants under one year of age	...	Primary	824
		Repeat	1493
To infants over one year of age	...		3712
To expectant mothers	...	Primary	84
		Repeat	37
Other visits	...		330
Total			6480

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES

At the beginning of the year 1948, there were 18 Midwives practising in the Borough. This figure is made up as follows :—

Municipal domiciliary midwives	...	...	10
Midwives in private practice	...	...	2
Midwives in institutions—			
Robson Maternity Home	...	...	5
Private Nursing Home	...	...	1

The following notices were received from these midwives during the first half of the year :—

Notices calling in medical aid	...	...	...	136
,, of stillbirth	...	...	...	11
,, of death of child	...	...	...	5
,, of artificial feeding	...	...	...	15
,, of liability to be a source of infection				1
Total ...				168

Eight inspections of midwives were carried out during this period.

Municipal Midwives.—The ten Municipal Midwives attended 337 cases during the half-year, 264 as midwives and 73 as maternity nurses. This is an average of 33·7 per midwife, equal to a yearly average of 67·4, compared with 81, 74 and 61, the averages for the year 1947, 1946, 1945.

At the date of transfer to the County Council, seven of the Municipal Midwives had qualified to administer gas and air analgesia.

ROBSON MATERNITY HOME

The Robson Maternity Home was transferred to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948, and now forms part of the hospital services administered by the Tees-side Hospital Management Committee. As in the case of the Isolation Hospital, the Corporation agreed to a request from the Hospital Board that until March, 1949, the Corporation should continue to be responsible for the day to day administration of the Home.

In the following statement some statistics in regard to the Home for the year 1948 are given :—

Number of Maternity beds available	...	...	21
Number of Maternity cases admitted during the year (including cases of ante-natal treatment of pregnancy)	...	...	756

Number of births	...	...	...	...	698
Cases attended by Midwives	...	...	...	...	517
Cases attended by doctors	...	...	...	...	181
Number of occasions when it was found necessary to summon medical aid	...	...	...	...	104
Cases admitted after delivery	...	...	...	...	6
Average duration of stay	...	...	...	...	11·2 days
Daily occupation of beds—					
Average over year	...	...	...	...	21
Highest in year	...	...	...	...	29
Lowest in year	...	...	...	...	12
Number of cases of Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	nil
Number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	nil
Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	nil
Number of cases of Pemphigus	...	...	...	...	nil
Number of Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	23
Number of Infantile deaths	...	...	...	...	9

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Seventy-three infants died in the Borough during 1948 before reaching the age of one year, compared with 104, 82 and 69, the corresponding figures for the years 1947, 1946 and 1945 respectively. The infantile mortality rate at 45 per 1,000 births is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough.

The ages of these infants at the time of death were as follows :—

Under one week	...	...	...	...	32
Over one week but under one month	...	...	...	...	8
Over one month but under 12 months	...	...	...	...	33
					<hr/> 73 <hr/>

Premature birth (23) and Pneumonia (13) were the principal causes of death.

The neo-natal death rate was 24·67 per 1,000 live births, compared with 30·89 and 29·22, the rates for 1947 and 1946 respectively.

A table showing the causes of death is given in the appendix to this report.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were four death registered during the year as being due to maternal causes. This is one less than the figure for 1947. All the deaths occurred in institutions.

The maternal mortality rate for the year was 2·39 per 1,000 total births, compared with 2·78, the rate for 1947, and with 1·02, the rate for England and Wales.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

The arrangements for the care of premature infants were continued during the year. Many of these infants are admitted to the Robson Maternity Home, where three cots are available. Two special cots are provided for midwives for use on the district. All cases are followed up by the Health Visitors. Good ambulance facilities are available for the removal of premature infants.

DAY NURSERIES

The three day nurseries in the Borough, providing 152 places for children under five years of age, were transferred to the County Council on the 5th July, 1948. The Health Department has, however, continued to be responsible for all admissions. There have again been more applications for admission than could possibly be accommodated, and, therefore, only priority cases, such as illegitimate children, children of separated parents and cases where the mother is forced to work to maintain herself and her family, and children referred on medical grounds, have been admitted.

We are still receiving a considerable number of applications from young mothers who wish to work in order to supplement the income of the household to meet the heavy expenses incurred in furnishing a home, but it has not been possible to admit more than a small proportion of the children of these applicants.

It is difficult, owing to sporadic outbreaks of infectious disease and the absence of many children during school holiday periods when older children are available to look after them at home, to maintain a high average attendance at day nurseries.

The average daily attendance during the year 1948 was 113·02, compared with 117·99 and 116·68, the corresponding figures for 1947 and 1946 respectively.

The average daily attendance (excluding Saturdays) at each nursery during the year is given in the following table :—

	No. of Places	No. on Register 30/12/48	Average Daily Attendances		
			Under 2	2—5 yrs.	TOTAL
Lorne Terrace ...	32	34	6.13	21.33	27.46
Norton Road ...	60	56	8.76	37.00	45.76
Durham Road ...	60	60	9.10	30.70	39.80
Totals ...	152	150	23.99	89.03	113.02

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This service was also transferred to the County Council on the 5th July, 1948, but the Health Department has carried on with its administration locally. The equivalent of six full-time Domestic Helps are employed and all were fully occupied during the year. With one exception, the time of the domestic helps is divided among aged and infirm or chronic sick people, each case receiving help on one or two days weekly. One domestic help is employed mainly on confinement cases and cases where the housewife is suffering from acute illness, or has to go into hospital for operation or treatment. Such cases are given priority and it is frequently necessary to withdraw a domestic help from her usual duties to take over a priority case for one or two weeks. In this way it is possible to keep the domestic helps fully employed and yet cover all urgent calls for assistance.

DENTAL AND SURGICAL TREATMENT OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Responsibility for the care of pre-school children in the Borough passed to the County Council on the 5th July, 1948, but the arrangements then in operation for their dental treatment by School Dentists and for the examination and treatment of children suffering from eye and ear, nose and throat conditions by the School Health Service Specialists, have been continued.

TOWN AMBULANCE SERVICE

This Service was transferred to the County Council on 5th July, 1948, under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and on that date it became a free service.

At the beginning of 1948, the ambulance previously stationed at the Isolation Hospital had been transferred to the Ambulance Depot at Woodlands in Yarm Lane. The ambulance service for the Borough was thus based at one depot capable of dealing with infectious and non-infectious cases.

At the time of transfer, the service comprised four ambulances with a staff of a superintendent, eight driver attendants and a telephonist. The area covered included, in addition to the Borough, the Borough of Thornaby and parts of the Stockton Rural District and the Stokesley Rural District.

Under the new scheme drawn up by the County Council for the provision of ambulance services for the County as a whole, the Stockton Depot is retained but the Depot at Billingham has been closed and the two ambulances and staff transferred to Stockton.

Since the date of transfer the number of calls has increased considerably and it has been necessary to increase the number of ambulances and the personnel.

The following is a summary of the work of the service during the first six months of the year 1948 :—

Calls Received				
Private	...	...	...	865
Street accidents	...	...	...	128
Works accidents	...	...	...	66
Home accidents	...	...	...	24
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	173
Ambulance not required	...	...	...	16

				1,272

HEALTH EDUCATION

Talks were given during the year to various organisations on public health topics. Posters were exhibited and leaflets distributed throughout the Health Department and Child Welfare Centres. The most important health education work is carried out by the staff of the department—Health Visitors, Sanitary Inspectors and Midwives—who come into personal contact with the people.

APPENDIX **Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality for the year 1948**

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns

		ENGLAND AND WALES	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns inc. London	148 Smaller Towns. Pop. 25000-50000 1931 Census	LONDON ADM. COUNTY	STOCKTON- ON- TEES
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—						
Live Births	... ..	17.9	20.0	19.2	20.1	22.18
Stillbirths	... ..	0.42	0.52	0.43	0.39	0.67
Deaths :—						
All causes	... ..	10.8	11.6	10.7	11.6	10.90
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	... ..	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Diphtheria	... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	—
Tuberculosis	... ..	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63	0.63
Influenza	... ..	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.01
Smallpox	... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	—
Pneumonia	... ..	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54	0.63
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—						
Deaths under 1 year of age	... ..	34	39	32	31	45
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 two years	... ..	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4	1.23
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—						
Maternal Mortality—						
Puerperal infection	... ..	0.24				—
Other	... ..	0.78				2.39
Total	... ..	1.02		not available		2.39

CAUSES OF DEATH IN STOCKTON-ON-TEES, 1948

CAUSE OF DEATH						TOTAL	Males	Females
ALL CAUSES						797	405	392
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers					—	—	—
2.	Cerebro spinal fever					1	—	1
3.	Scarlet fever					—	—	—
4.	Whooping cough					2	1	1
5.	Diphtheria					—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system ...					41	17	24
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis					5	1	4
8.	Syphilitic diseases					2	1	1
9.	Influenza					1	1	—
10.	Measles					1	1	—
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...					—	—	—
12.	Acute infective encephalitis					1	1	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus					2	2	—
13a.	Cancer of uterus					6	—	6
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...					28	17	11
15.	Cancer of breast					9	—	9
16.	Cancer of all other sites					58	38	20
17.	Diabetes					4	1	3
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions					68	34	34
19.	Heart diseases					222	106	116
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system ...					30	15	15
21.	Bronchitis					27	17	10
22.	Pneumonia					46	28	18
23.	Other respiratory diseases					5	2	3
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum					16	15	1
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years					2	—	2
26.	Appendicitis					5	3	2
27.	Other digestive diseases					16	10	6
28.	Nephritis					22	8	14
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis					—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes					4	—	4
31.	Premature birth					18	10	8
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infantile diseases					24	15	9
33.	Suicide					8	2	6
34.	Road traffic accidents					2	2	—
35.	Other violent causes					28	16	12
36.	All other causes					92	41	51

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1948

CAUSE OF DEATH	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
	under 1 week	under 1 month	under 12 months
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	2	13
Bronchitis	—	—	1
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	2
Atelectasis	5	6	6
Congenital Malformations	3	3	5
Premature Birth	18	22	23
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	1
Inanition	—	—	—
Violence	—	—	2
Inattention at Birth	—	—	—
Birth injuries	1	2	2
Other Causes	5	5	11
Totals ...	32	40	73

ATTENDANCES AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES—1948

CENTRE	Total Attendance		TOTAL	No. of Medical Consult's	Average Attendance per Session
	Primary	Repeat			
1	284	2958	3242	860	66·16
2	471	7998	8469	845	60·92
3	139	1865	2004	596	47·71
4	383	6699	7082	1011	72·26
5	164	3599	3763	862	76·79
6	73	2131	2204	346	50·09
Totals	1514	25250	26764	4520	63·57

ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL CENTRES—1948

Primary	Repeat	Total	No. of Medical Consultations	Average Attendance per Session
724	948	1672	1253	14·5

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY—1948

No. of confinements attended during 1948	661
No. of cases in which Midwife acted as—	
Midwife	496
Maternity Nurse	165
Average number of cases per midwife	66

